



# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



Connie Channon stands by Pennie, one of her 9,000-pound charges at the San Francisco Zoo. In her six years as an elephant keeper, Channon has found the animals to be smart, affectionate and altruistic. Photo by Charles Kennard

## All Quiet on the Noe Front . . . for Now

By Jeff Kaliss

Noe Valley used to have a reputation, both on 24th Street and down at City Hall, as a neighborhood with an informed, active public voice. Actually, there were four voices: two of them belonged to groups representing residents (the Friends of Noe Valley and the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club), and two to commercial groups (the Noe Valley Merchants Association and the Business & Professional Association of Noe Valley).

Over the past couple of years, though, these sometimes discordant voices seem to have died down to a murmur. Have they lost their enthusiasm, or their *raison d'être*?

As Ron Klein, owner of 24th Street's Joshua Simon boutique and outgoing president of the Noe Valley Merchants Association, asked himself recently: "Where are these organizations and what are they?"

### Noe Valley Merchants Association

Klein's own organization, with 97 members the older and larger of the commercial groups, has had its problems keeping up enthusiasm of late. "Ninety percent of our members are very inactive," claims Klein. He's had a hard time finding anyone to assume his presidency, which technically ended last month.

Klein also points out that new projects would require "one person who can say, 'I'm willing to do this, are you interested in helping?'" And this hasn't been happening lately." He attributes the members' apathy to a turning of attention away from the group and more toward their own businesses, where the slow-down of inflation is demanding more care and caution.

True, there seemed to have been more reason to be up and fighting two or three years ago when the San Francisco Planning Department was still hearing different opinions from the four groups about proposed controls on commercial growth along 24th and adjoining streets. Unlike the other three, the Merchants Association had advocated allowing businesses to set up shop above the street level. They argued that the extra space was necessary to a growing commercial district. When the city unveiled its finished zoning package last year, it did not include upper-story businesses, and thus one of the prime issues dividing the groups was laid to rest, at least for the time being.

However, the Merchants Association has not abandoned its goal of expansion. The future, according to Klein and some of his cohorts, lies in "a more sophisticated advertising program." And he's convinced such a program should be guided by two principles: first, "businesses in today's economy depend on more than just what local customers can provide," and, second, "no one individual store can draw as well as a whole promotional system advertising the district."

With these things in mind, the Noe Valley Merchants Association invited two publicists to its December meeting,

## Zoo Elephants Will Never Forget Her

By Annie Stuart

"It's nice to know a four-ton animal is listening to you when you give her a vocal command," says 32-year-old Connie Channon, a Noe Valley resident and full-time keeper of the two Asian elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.

When Channon talks, Pennie and Tinkerbell, her pachyderm protégées, listen . . . at least most of the time. There have only been a couple of times, during Channon's six years of working with the elephants, when the animals forgot to pay attention and unintentionally jeopardized her safety, says Channon.

Born in Cambodia, Pennie is now 31, or middle-aged for an elephant. She'll probably live to her late 60s or 70s in captivity, about the same as she would in the wild. Pennie shares the Asian elephant house with Tinkerbell, who came to the San Francisco Zoo from Thailand at age 2.

The zoo also has two African elephants, housed in a different location. They differ physically from the Asian elephants in that they are larger, have big floppy ears, a concave back and tusks in both sexes. (Only Asian males have tusks.)

Channon, who lives at 21st and Guerrero streets, has taught the elephants 21 standard one- or two-word commands, used universally by elephant keepers to ensure their safety as well as the elephants' and to ease the transfer of elephants from zoo to zoo for mating and other purposes.

Channon's job includes giving a daily demonstration for zoo-goers of these commands, which she combines with gentle prods from an ankus or bullhook. According to Channon, the elephants respond to voice inflections, hand signals and body language as well.

During the 1 p.m. demonstration, Channon and her fellow elephant keepers ease Pennie and Tinkerbell to their knees,

using the command "stretch," and then over onto their sides with "lay over." They then inspect the animals' eyes and ears and check their hooves for holes and cracks, filing them with rasps to prevent hoof rot.

According to Channon, maintaining the elephants' tractability is extremely beneficial because it minimizes the need to anesthetize them for manicures or medical care. And that's no small matter since an elephant who's been drugged can sometimes crash to the ground, injuring her majestic frame.

After one such public manicure last month, Pennie, usually the more docile of the two, seemed a bit reluctant to get back up after having sprawled on her side. A little encouragement from Channon—"Let's go, big girl"—and a gradual rocking motion helped her defy gravity long enough to get her 9,000 pounds back on her feet.

Then Pennie and Tinkerbell impressed the crowd by lifting the front half of their bodies to a pedestal.

"Some people object to this part of the demonstration because it resembles a circus act," says Channon. But she's convinced the "elephant aerobics" are good exercise, especially for slow-moving Pennie.

After the demonstration, Tinkerbell was given a head start to a lunch of hay, alfalfa, and acacia branches since, according to Channon, Pennie occasionally makes a surreptitious move on Tinkerbell's food.

"Pennie seems to think if she moves *really* slow we won't notice her going for Tinkerbell's food," says Channon with a grin.

In the afternoon, the elephants are treated to dessert: apples and carrots. Like kids going for candy, they pop it

## Food Drive Continues to Aid Central American Refugees

By Denise Minor

At 7 a.m. every Friday morning Beth Abrams heads to the South San Francisco produce terminal where she barter with vendors for discounts on large quantities of fruits and vegetables. She then stops at local shops and the Noe Valley Ministry to pick up donations such as bread, beans and cheese.

Loaded with food, she makes the rounds of the dozens of temporary homes of refugees living in San Francisco with the aid of the Central American Refugee Committee (also known as CRECE, which means "grow" in Spanish).

Abrams says she gets the warmest wel-

come when she arrives with her arms full of bananas for the children. "The kids jump around like crazy. It's great."

A local dance teacher and member of the Noe Valley Affinity Group, Abrams says she started asking students and friends to donate to a fund to buy food for refugees last August. "When I found out that a lot of these people were subsisting on only canned food—and there are lots of children—I decided I had to do something," she said. "I'm sort of a health food nut, and I know how important it is to eat right."

Through the Affinity Group, the Noe

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## Weir Guilty of Deceiving Immigration

By Denise Minor

Noe Valley businessman John L. Weir pleaded guilty Jan. 14 in federal district court to two charges of falsifying information submitted on behalf of foreign clients to the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Weir, a former immigration attorney disbarred in 1979 for unethical practices, represented at least 200 would-be immigrants from the Far and Middle East, said federal prosecutor Rodolfo Orjales. "These were not political refugees or people moving here because of financial hardship," said Orjales. "These were people in good financial positions who could pay between \$6,000 and \$10,000 for Weir's services." Weir maintained his 4069 24th St. office for six years.

The indictment charges that Weir submitted false information to the Labor Department to get work permits for 13 of his clients. Evidence against him included fake job offers on phony letterhead stationery. Weir also got employers to sign blank forms saying they needed a specific foreigner's services, which Weir later filled in with his client's name, said Orjales.

Weir also agreed to plead guilty to tax evasion, a charge that will be filed next month, Orjales said. Three of his employees, Francis Suryan, Leo Booth and William Furlong, pleaded guilty to one count each of conspiracy.

Sentencing for Weir will be March 17 by Federal District Court Judge William Schwarzer. Orjales said Weir could receive anywhere from probation to 15 years in prison and a \$260,000 fine. □

## —Proposed Curbs on Rent Control—

# Costa's Bill May Cost Us a Lot

By Denise Minor

Hundreds of tenants in Noe Valley could see rent hikes next year if the state legislature passes AB 483, a bill that would seriously hamper local rent control ordinances.

The bill would exempt vacant apartments, single-family homes, condominiums and townhouses from rent control. Bay Area opponents of the bill staged two major demonstrations last month, one Jan. 3 at San Francisco City Hall and one Jan. 17 at the state Senate Judiciary Committee hearings in Oakland.

Ricardo Hernandez, executive director of the San Francisco Residential Rent Stabilization & Arbitration Board, estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 units citywide would be affected if the bill passed. He was unsure how many Noe Valley renters would lose rent control, but guessed it would be in the hundreds.

"Rents are high in the Noe. There is no affordable housing there," said Hernandez, whose family owns a two-family unit at Church and Clipper. "Those who would suffer are the long-time tenants whose rents would jump to the higher end." Rents for San Francisco tenants have been protected from raises of more than seven percent annually since rent control passed in 1979, he said.

Although the current bill deals mainly with small units, Jodi Reid of the Old St. Mary's Housing Committee, a rent control advocacy group, fears that AB 483 is only a stepping stone. If passed, it could pave the way for real estate interests to organize a campaign to completely repeal rent control, she said.

"I'm worried that very soon we'll be looking at an even more far-reaching bill," Reid said.

AB 483 began as a measure to govern leases for mobile home renters. But under the sponsorship of Assemblyman James Costa (D-Fresno), it has ballooned into the current bill, which not only limits rent control but also prohibits vacancy controls and would take away renter tax credits from households with a taxable income of \$35,000 or more.

Vacancy control limits the amount a landlord can raise rents once a unit is vacated. San Francisco currently has no vacancy control, although most of the 51 other cities in California with rent control ordinances do, said Reid.

Another problem Reid sees with the bill is how one interprets the designation "single-family" unit. She says a landlord or real estate agency may own an enormous number of what are technically single-family units.

But to Reid the real issue is whether "people in the state should decide what a city needs or doesn't need." In her view, big business interests are trying to wield more power by going through the state legislature, where representatives from rural areas can vote on issues that may be of little concern to them.

AB 483 backers include the California Association of Realtors, the Real Estate Board (a private organization), the Builders Industry of California, Western Mobile Homes, and the Apartment House Association, according to Sen. John Foran's office (D-San Francisco).

Supporters of the bill say rent control stymies new construction and discourages building upkeep. They also claim that owners of single-family units are rarely big property owners and that they are suffering from artificially low rents.

But Hernandez argues that any landlord who needs to raise rents to make necessary improvements can come be-

fore the rent stabilization board to prove the case at a hearing. An average of 160 cases come before the board each month, he said. If the landlord's case is justified, a rent increase is granted.

Also, in San Francisco new construction is already exempt from rent control. Zoning restrictions and neighbors, not rent control, have kept developers out of most neighborhoods, he said. "There is a housing problem, and we've created it," said Hernandez.

"A friend of mine was going to build an apartment complex in Noe Valley, but the neighbors, and your paper, fought it," he said. "Can you blame them? Who wants a 20-story building next door?"

For cities that want to curtail development, rent control is often a necessity, he said. And San Francisco's ordinance is very moderate compared to others. "It didn't start out as a for-the-tenant and against-the-landlord bill. It was very much middle of the road," he said.

The 1979 ordinance gave tenants the right to object to rent increases of more than seven percent annually. Since then, the law has expanded each year, with its most far-reaching amendment passing in 1982. Supervisor Willie Kennedy sponsored that year's extension, which made it illegal for rent hikes to go above the current inflation rate. Last year landlords could raise rents only four percent because of low inflation.

"Before, the burden was with the tenants, and some were afraid to file a petition," Hernandez said. "Now it is the landlord who must file before raising rents more than seven percent. The tenant has more clout."

AB 483 passed the state Assembly last year and is currently in the Senate Judiciary Committee. If passed, it would go into effect in 1987. □



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# Neighborhood Groups Grope for a Good Cause

Continued from Page 1

Terry Graham and Kevin Comura. Graham, who works out of a Union Street ad agency, showed off her brochures, which feature maps and detailed descriptions of businesses, suitable for distribution both in and out of the neighborhood.

Comura introduced his "Cityscape," a video presentation which is made available to 6,000 hotel rooms across the city. He explained that TVs in these rooms are left tuned to a special channel by the housecleaning staff, so that guests turning on their sets are immediately confronted by a short program touting both the hotel's services and the shopping and dining adventures awaiting in various parts of the metropolis.

"Come and see us in Noe Valley, a town within a city," muses Klein as he envisions a future video script. "Noe Valley has a certain ambience which people are more interested in now. . . . They may have been exposed to Fisherman's Wharf for the last 18 years, and they want to see other parts of San Francisco."

Klein hastens to add that "it's not that we're looking to have 10,000 tourists walking down the street with tourist buses and all that." Instead, he sees the brochures and participation in "Cityscape" as part of a "low-key campaign."

Even so, such a campaign would cost big bucks, and the organization's coffers presently do not have much to offer the likes of Graham or Comura. When Klein's street fair was rained out last September, his treasury missed out on somewhere between \$5,000 and \$8,000 in income. A substantial portion of this year's annual dues (\$36 per member) will go to replenish the cost of pre-Christmas promotions and activities.

So Klein is thinking about raising the

dues as much as tenfold as a possible prerequisite to future activity, even if it might mean a reduction in membership. He figures a strong treasury based on dues would also eliminate dependence on money-making schemes such as the street fair. "We'd go more for the sidewalk sale [every few months], entertainment on the street, or a music festival, something like that," Klein proposes.

## Business & Professional Association of Noe Valley

Harry Aleo, first vice president of the Business & Professional Association (B&P), would shed no tears if the street fair were never to reappear. "We're for the betterment of 24th Street," declares Aleo, "not for the buck-making part of it."

In fact, the B&P spoke out against the fair and has stood in opposition to most of the Merchants Association's positions and projects ever since the B&P's founders, mostly older businessmen, split from the Merchants Association in 1975 to form their own organization.

The B&P generally has a more conservative image than the Merchants Association. However, the B&P's espousal of neighborhood protectionism has gained it the company of both residents' groups in matters of zoning.

"One of our pet projects," says Aleo, "is keeping businesses out of the upper stories, to retain our residences." Now that this position, shared by the residents' groups, has been officially reinforced by the city's planning code, the B&P intends "to keep abreast of things and try to maintain the gains we have," says Aleo. This will involve letter-writing and occasional personal appearances when merchants seeking special treatment appeal to the S.F. Planning Commission, which oversees enforcement of the code.

Both Aleo and fellow 24th Street realtor

Armando Bolanos, the group's president, feel that the Business & Professional Association has never received enough credit for its neighborhood activity. "We don't make big splashes," admits Aleo, but he points out that the organization presently includes between 50 and 100 members.

Each year the B&P has operated raffles which offer neighborhood shoppers a ham for Easter, a turkey for Thanksgiving, and a ham or turkey for Christmas. Looking at the year ahead, though, Aleo says, "I don't see any definite plans for anything other than maintaining what we have."

## Friends of Noe Valley

Like Aleo, Friends President Bill Kuhns is not expecting any dramatic challenges. Formed in 1971 as an activist advocate of residential interests, Friends of Noe Valley is the largest of the four neighborhood groups, with over 200 members. However, Kuhns feels that "we just haven't had any major issues that have brought out an active group or active opposition," as the zoning wars once did.

Instead, Friends anticipates a year of benign activity, including the greening of the streets (in cooperation with Friends of the Urban Forest), the giving of a grant to a worthy local cause (see *Short Takes*), and the sponsorship of "Dumpster Days" to help residents dispose of trash.

An alternative street fair, such as that staged by the group at James Lick School in 1984, will probably not reappear. Kuhns says it proved "a labor of love of two or three people, and they simply wore out."

Still, Kuhns aspires to "get some more new young Turks involved who want to take over and make things go." There's a need, he notes, to reactivate the group's once-energetic planning committee in

order to keep an eye on enforcement of commercial zoning controls (a task now handled almost exclusively by Friends ex-president Miriam Blaustein).

Friends of Noe Valley also seeks chairpersons for its park and recreation and hospitality committees. "Hopefully," says Kuhns, "we can maintain the name that it took a long time to establish down at City Hall, where we still have some clout."

## East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club

A frequent and outspoken visitor to City Hall and the planning commission's chambers is Fred Methner, secretary and litter chairman of East & West of Castro, the longest-standing (since 1904) of the neighborhood groups. In addition to publishing a chatty, informative newsletter and eradicating neighborhood graffiti, as his titles imply, Methner (like Blaustein) voices his organization's opinion at permit hearings affecting Noe Valley's ever-changing commercial complexion.

(As an example, Methner and a colleague last month attended a hearing of the planning commission to consider an application by the Courtyard Cafe to establish 10 tables for diners in the Noe Valley Mall, behind the cafe at 3913 24th St. Since approval of the application would constitute expansion of a restaurant within the 24th Street-Noe Valley Commercial Use District, the hearing was mandatory.)

Davood Mazaffari, owner of the cafe, presented petitions from his customers in favor of the expansion, while the East & West representatives warned of possible noise problems that outdoor diners would create for residents on adjoining Jersey Street. After hearing the arguments, the commission approved the ex-

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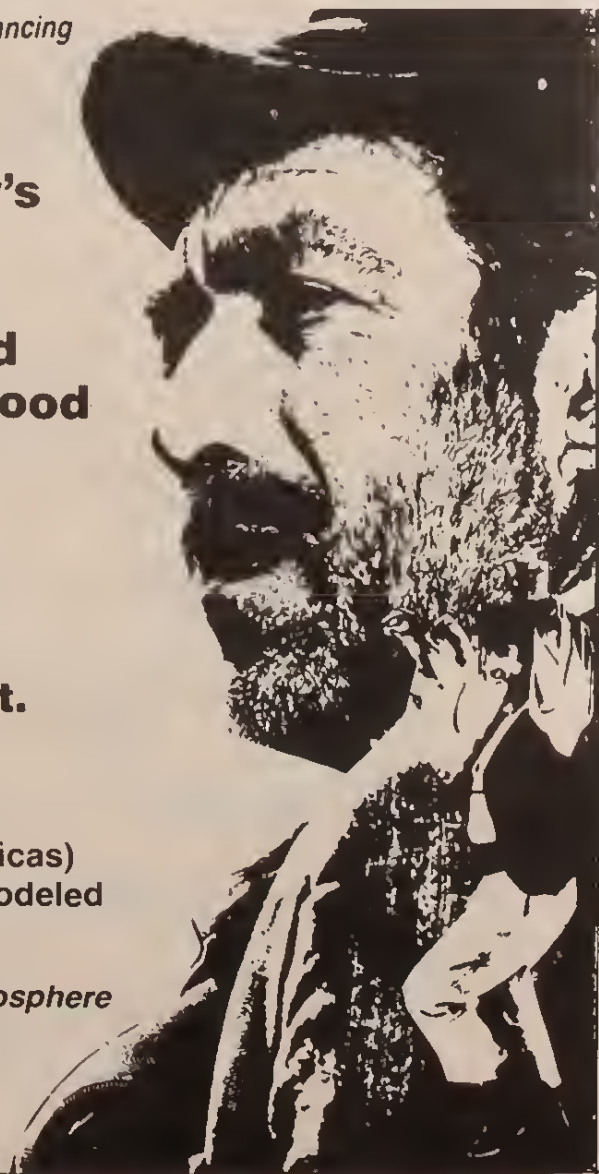
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## • Groups Grope •

Continued from Page 4

pansion, but asked Mazaffari to confine it to six tables and to use paper plates, thus keeping the noise to a minimum. After a trouble-free year, the Courtyard may get four more tables.)

Methner summarizes his attitude toward neighborhood evolution by pointing to the city's zoning classification for 24th Street (RC-1): "It's an RC district, and the R [for residential] precedes the C [for commercial]. . . . We don't want a bunch of tourists coming in from all over. Then it will become another Union Street, and that's exactly what we want to prevent."

Although he's been retired for several years, Methner now finds himself "busy almost every day, morning to night" with neighborhood activities. The mainly middle-aged and older members of his group are a little reluctant to assume part of the burden. "When I say, 'How about one of you people volunteering?', there's deadly silence," laments Methner. "Maybe they've sort of given up the ship."

At their December meeting, the membership, which totals 56, was at least cooperative enough to earmark \$500 to purchase materials from Tuggey's Hardware (e.g., paint, brushes, rollers, and trays) to help Methner and the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) blot out graffiti on neighborhood schools, trash cans, Muni shelters, and rights-of-way.

Aside from monitoring zoning controls, East & West of Castro will keep watch on tree-planting, lighting, litter, and traffic problems during the coming year.



Bill Kuhns, president of Friends of Noe Valley, foresees a quiet but positive year for his group. (Harry Aleo and Fred Methner, also interviewed for the accompanying story on neighborhood organizations, declined to have their pictures taken, and Ron Klein, busy drumming up support for the Noe Valley Merchants Association, was unavailable for a shoot.) Photo by Charles Kennard.

### Things to Come

The neighborhood's four groups are apparently suffering from syndromes in common: a lack of vital issues, a need for new blood, and a tendency to hang the burden of activity on the shoulders of a few stalwarts. Communication between the groups, whether constructive

or antagonistic, is at a low ebb, even though they still cling to strong opinions about the neighborhood's character, particularly as it relates to 24th Street.

Ron Klein of the Merchants Association is certain that, despite the other groups' fears, Noe Valley will never look like Union Street, which is turning into "Death Row" because of weak controls

and skyrocketing commercial rents.

However, Klein is well aware that his organization's expansionist plans for the neighborhood may raise again the old voices of divisiveness. "Once they see us trying to do something advertising-wise, promoting Noe Valley outside of Noe Valley," he says, "you're gonna get some reaction." □

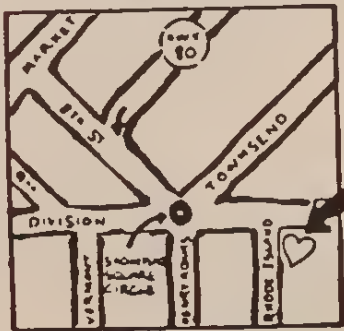
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11 am: Ruth Heller, author of *Chickens Aren't the Only Ones*, will read her stories and sign books. . . .  
Join our Brio Engineers Club—20% off all Brio toys.

Create a creature! Join our glue-in with Russell Roberts, local craftsman.

1 pm: The "Good Toy" Workshop.

### Wed. Feb. 19

11-2 pm: Informal modeling of spring fashions by Bay Area's innovative children's clothing designers! Sweet Potatoes, Susannah England.  
2 pm: Origami demonstration.

### Thurs. Feb. 20

10 am: Tony Torris of *Living and Learning Environments* will give a slide presentation of his award-winning children's rooms. 11-2 pm: Learn about Simmons, Childcraft, Gerico & Snuggli from the sources!

### Fri. Feb. 21

10 am: Carol T. Meyers, author of *Eating Out With Kids in SF and the Bay Area*, will have an informal slide presentation and a Q & A session.

1 pm: Sing along with Nancy Raven, winner of the Parent's Choice award for 1985.

### Sat. Feb. 22

11 am: Free concert by Gary Lapow! Rock out with the Bay Area's charming and renowned songster for the young at heart.

12 noon: Be a clown! Dr. Mozzarella & Victoria Cheeze will show you how. . . .

1 pm: Mrs. Grossman's sticker party for kids of all ages. . . .

3 pm: Bob Brown's Magic Show!





## Hospice Forced To Cut Back On Enrollment

For the immediate future, terminally ill patients in San Francisco—except those with AIDS—will be unable to enroll in Hospice of San Francisco, a locally-based program of skilled care and humane support for patients in their homes.

Executive Director Hadley Hall announced last month that, because of increased financial pressures, Hospice had stopped accepting new terminally ill patients on Jan. 2 and had begun reorganizing its services.

The six-year-old agency, which has offices at 225 30th St., also had to temporarily lay off some of its staff, he said.

Hall emphasized, however, that services to patients already in the program would continue uninterrupted and that new enrollees would again be accepted and staff reinstated as soon as cash flow problems were resolved.

He also noted that Hospice's special program for people with AIDS, which receives partial funding from the San Francisco Health Department, was not affected by the belt-tightening measures and would continue to take new patients. As of the beginning of January, Hospice served 55 AIDS patients and 38 patients with other terminal illnesses.

According to Hall, Hospice's financial problems stem from the failure of Medicare, Medi-Cal and private insurance companies to cover adequately the cost

of providing hospice care in San Francisco. Also, Medicare reimbursement is typically delayed three months or more from the time care is provided, he said.

Despite generous financial support from many donors, he added, Hospice has been unable to raise enough funds to make up the difference between reimbursement and expenses—especially with a growing caseload.

## CUAV Acting Against Attacks on Gays

By Suzanne Scott

Several recent attacks on gay men near Church and Market streets have prompted a local activist group, the Community United Against Violence (CUAV), to post "assault alerts" in the area, warning men out alone at night to be on their guard.

According to CUAV, three men narrowly escaped serious harm in the Church and Market area during separate incidents in December. CUAV attributes the attacks to the same group of youths. Organization staffers said the attackers had apparently singled out individuals whom they perceived to be gay and then chased, threatened, and shoved them. In one instance, an assailant threw a brick at his victim.

Police apprehended three juveniles after one assault, but released the suspects when the victim failed to make a positive identification.

CUAV volunteers are probably best known for their efforts to keep the peace at crowded events such as the Castro Street

"Ironically, hospice care in the home is far less costly than hospital care for terminally ill patients," he pointed out. The cost of care in Hospice of San Francisco's program runs less than \$125 a day, compared with an average cost of \$1,000 per day in Bay Area hospitals. In Hall's view, Medicare and private insurance agencies should recognize the cost-effectiveness of home and hospice care and provide

full reimbursement for these services.

In the meantime, Hospice has established a special fund that it is hoped will enable the organization to get back on its feet and reopen its general intake program in the next few months. People can make donations to this fund and/or to the AIDS Home Care Program by writing Hospice of San Francisco, 225 30th St., San Francisco, CA 94131. □

Fair, but they also offer both immediate and ongoing counseling to victims of violence. The organization is headquartered at 514 Castro St., but does outreach to other communities, offering educational programs on street safety to seniors, Tenderloin residents, and school kids.

These local guardian angels will help crime victims file police reports and, if the victim is gay and perhaps reluctant to go to the police, will arrange for a gay-sensitive officer to take the report. CUAV counselor Randy Schell points out, however, that you need not be gay to report an incident of violence or harassment to his group.

CUAV community organizer Carmen Vazquez finds that many gay victims of violence, like women rape victims, are afraid to report assaults. "They don't want to lose their jobs or create family problems," she said. Because of the lack of reporting, "we probably don't see more than 25 percent of what goes on." Still, Vazquez claims, CUAV receives more assault reports than do the police.

CUAV statistics indicate that anti-gay

attacks were 37 percent higher for the first three quarters of 1985 than for the same period in 1984. "It's intense," said Schell. While anti-gay violence is not a new phenomenon, Schell believes that AIDS has a lot to do with recent attacks. He said that in one recent incident an attacker called his victim a "diseased AIDS carrier."

Vazquez feels that the public associates homosexuals with AIDS, and "for people who are hostile already [toward gays], it gives them justification."

CUAV's research shows that the majority of anti-gay attackers are young and male. According to CUAV records, 75 percent are under 30 and 50 percent are under 18 years of age. "Young kids are confused regarding homosexuality," explains Vazquez. "The visible homosexual community adds to their pressure and confusion. Young men with a need to establish masculinity will find all kinds of reasons to show off."

If you are a victim of violence or witness an assault, call CUAV's 24-hour hotline: 864-7233. □

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## • Elephant Keeper •

*Continued from Page 1*

into their mouths and swing their gigantic trunks back for more.

Each of the elephants feeds six to eight hours a day, consuming 100 pounds of food, much of which they lose due to an inefficient digestive system.

At lunchtime, Tinkerbell likes to toss some of the hay up onto her back, making a kind of improvised sunscreen. She also uses her trunk to break up the acacia branches. With its some 40,000 muscles, her trunk is strong enough to dismember a human, yet agile enough to pick up a dime.

That pinkish, mottled nose, with its patches of hair and human-like septum, also has an extremely sensitive smelling mechanism. The elephants can, for example, pick up the scent of fear from several feet away, says Channon. The giant olfactory organ does, however, respond enthusiastically to being blown into. (Blow in my nose and I'll follow you anywhere!)

In addition to handling feeding and checkups, Channon and three other elephant keepers, two of whom are also women, are responsible for cleaning up inside the cement elephant house.

"In general, we do mostly cleaning in the morning and feeding in the afternoon," says brown-eyed, curly-haired Channon. Channon spends half of her eight-hour day cleaning up around the elephants, hating and showering them down to keep their skin supple, washing their feet, and overseeing vet visits, when required.

At around 4 p.m., Pennie and Tinker are led inside the elephant house, where they'll spend the night. They become uncomfortable at temperatures below 45 degrees, explains Channon.

Channon, whose elephant-charm necklace may reveal her partiality to elephants, also cares for the zoo's pygmy hippos, grey seals and whooper swans.

While she had animals in her life at an early age—cats, snakes, and a baby alligator—she didn't exactly set out to become an elephant keeper. There isn't really a logical progression toward that end, anyway, since there are only two schools in the U.S. that teach zookeeping.

After graduating with a degree in English from State University of New York at Buffalo ("a foiled novelist with a desk drawer novel"), Channon set out for Kentucky to work with thoroughbred horses.

Low pay soon forced her to move to San Francisco, where she started working at the zoo in 1979.

"Animal keepers here are the highest paid in the country, earning \$24,000 to \$30,000, before overtime," said Channon, who attributes that fact to a stronger union. She wouldn't commit herself, however, to saying that the pay is adequate compensation for the risk-taking involved. Apparently her mother doesn't think it is.

"She wants me to work with the mon-



*Tinkerbell, left, seems to be giving keeper Connie Channon some feedback about the baton, which she clasps firmly in her muscular trunk. Pennie, right, seizes the opportunity to pick up a snack. Photo by Charles Kennard*

keys," said Channon. But "your mother always worries."

On rare occasions Channon has had to worry, too. Once Tinkerbell pulled down a half-ton door that missed Channon by a foot and landed on Pennie's back. Another time, Tinkerbell, who was frisky after an early summer swim in the pool, was so eager to get indoors she almost accidentally squashed Channon in a passageway. "First rule about being around elephants is never get between them and a wall," laughs Channon.

All in all, though, Channon doesn't feel threatened and has never been "chased down" by the elephants. The predominant feeling she projects around the massive beings is one of reverence.

"It's an honor and a privilege to work with elephants," she emphasizes, while conceding that they require a great deal of patience and tenacity. Though "statistically more woman circus elephant trainers are hurt than men (which may just be because they're newer in the work)," Channon thinks women, especially those with a certain "stick-to-itiveness," may be better suited to the job. After several years of being handled by both men and women, Tinkerbell, the more ornery of the two elephants, seems to prefer women, Channon says. That may account for the 3-1 ratio of women to men at the San Francisco elephant house.

Asked what she likes most about elephants, Channon replies with a characteristic dry sense of humor: "I don't know... I like basic grey." Then she adds, "They're smart, they're affectionate, they're altruistic." For example, she says, elephants will slow their speed

to compensate for a wounded member of their herd.

"In India, pet elephants have been left to babysit small children, literally pulling them back with their trunks to keep them from straying too far away," she says.

Channon recently returned from Sarin, a border town in Thailand, where the Suay people, known for their elephant-handling skills, stage an annual roundup. They re-enact the capture of wild elephants with ropes and lassos, pit 100 Thai soldiers against one elephant in a tug-of-war battle ("the soldiers inevitably lose") and cheer on two teams of elephants playing soccer.

Channon says the Asian elephants, which were domesticated hundreds of years ago for logging purposes, are quickly becoming an imperiled species as their forests and grasslands become fragmented. An estimated 40,000 remain. Together with about a million African elephants, they are the only surviving species of some 350 that once existed.

Looking at things in this light, Channon considers zoos to be "lifeboats" or "arks" for these endangered species. To Channon, zoos are much more humane than circuses, where elephants are often treated like "big wind-up toys," although she does admit that the circus is the best training ground for elephant keepers.

More importantly, however, "zoos are a place where extensive record-keeping, documentation and cooperative breeding programs can be developed to maintain genetic diversity," says Channon.

While elephants are breedable up to age 60, the process, in captivity, presents some "logistical problems." Only nine zoos house male elephants, and getting sperm from the males for artificial insemination is no simple task. This problem, combined with the fact that female cycles are very irregular, means that breeding for an elephant's 18-month to two-year pregnancy is now mostly done the "natural way."

In the future, Channon would like to see the San Francisco Zoo's 1941 WPA elephant house replaced by a new one suitable for breeding. It would have to be equipped with hydraulic doors for bulls in musk and guardrails around any indoor moats to keep baby elephants from falling in.

As for her own future career, Channon says she'd like to work with a greater variety of animals. After observing her dedication to Pennie and Tinkerbell, however, one wonders if there really could be "life after elephants" for Channon.

"Pennie and I are about the same age," says Channon. "I sometimes joke that we'll end up retiring together."

She just might be right. □

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#### LUNCH

##### Appetizers

Antipasto prosciutto, salame, cheese, olives	3.95
Salame Plate garnished with marinated olives	2.35
Marinate Calamari	3.25
Pomodoro delle Sirene	
tomatoes, tuna, anchovies, olives, capers	4.05
Tonno con Fagioli tuna and beans	2.95
Insalata Mista mixed salad	1.55
Minestrone Italian vegetable soup	1.95
Soup and Salad	3.35

##### Pastas

	A La Carte	Lunch
Spaghetti Carbonara ham, egg, onions, cheese	4.05	5.05
Spaghetti Boscaiola sausage, mushrooms, tomato	4.25	5.25
Fettuccine al Pesto	3.95	4.95
Fettuccine Alfredo	3.85	4.85
Spaghetti Napoletana garlic and tomato sauce	3.65	4.65
Spaghetti Aglio e Olio garlic and olive oil	3.25	4.25
Spaghetti Meat Balls	4.05	5.05
Spaghetti alle Vongole white clam sauce	4.05	5.05
Spaghetti Tarantina scallops, prawns, calamari, and...	4.95	5.95

##### Fish

Filetti di Sogliola Dorati filet of sole, panfried	5.75	6.75
Filetti di sogliola al Limone filet of sole, lemon sauce	5.75	6.75
Calamari Fritti fried calamari	5.75	6.75
Calamari Marinara calamari sauté, garlic and tomato	5.75	6.75

##### Veal

Cotoletta Milanese breaded and fried	5.55	6.55
Cotoletta alla Parmigiana veal parmigiana	5.75	6.75
Vitella Piccata scaloppine, cream, lemon, capers	5.75	6.75
Vitella al Limone scaloppine, cream, lemon	5.55	6.55
Scaloppine al Marsala con Funghi mushrooms and marsala	5.85	6.85

##### Chicken

Chicken al Mattone broiled and sauté with wine	5.65	6.65
Chicken Cacciatora sauté with vegetables	5.65	6.65

##### Mamma's Specialties

Melanzane alla Parmigiana eggplant parmigiana	4.85	5.85
Pollo della Casa		
chicken sauté lemon and cream sauce	5.65	6.65
Grandma's Prawns garlic, capers and tomato	5.95	6.95
Lobster Fradiavolo		
sauté butter, onions, ham, mushrooms, etc.—spicy	7.95	8.95

##### Also Daily Specials

##### Desserts

Buckingham Delight Italian trifle	1.85
Zabaione for Two whipped egg with marsala wine	3.90
Cheese Cake	1.65

##### Beverages

House Wine Burgundy and Chablis	
1 liter carafe	5.35
½ liter carafe	3.00
¼ liter carafe	2.00
Glass	1.10
Other Wines	see wine list
Beers	see wine list
Sodas, Coffee (regular or decaf.), Tea, Milk	60

##### Mokas

Espresso	1.00
Cappuccino or Caffellatte	1.25

\*Lunch includes Soup or Salad—Serving Lunch 12:00–2:30 Monday–Friday

#### DINNER MENU

##### Appetizers

Insalata Mista tossed green salad	1.75
Antipasto prosciutto, salame, cheese, olives	4.50
Salame Plate garnished with marinated olives	3.15
Prosciutto e Melone ham and melon	4.25
Marinated Calamari	4.15
Pomodoro delle Sirene	
tomatoes, tuna, anchovies, olives, capers	5.85
Tonno e Fagioli tuna and beans	4.95

##### Soup

Minestrone	2.05
Soup and Salad	3.50

#### ENTREES

##### Pastas

	A La Carte	Dinner
Ravioli alla Panna cheese and cream sauce	5.85	7.75
Fettuccine al Pesto basil and cream sauce	5.55	7.45
Fettuccine Alfredo cheese and cream sauce	5.45	7.35
Spaghetti Napoletana garlic and tomato sauce	5.15	7.05
Spaghetti Aglio e Olio garlic and oil	4.55	6.45
Spaghetti alla Campagnola vegetables, herbs, cream	5.75	7.65
Spaghetti Meat Balls	5.75	7.65
Spaghetti alla Tarantina		
scallops, prawns, calamari, and...	8.05	9.95
Spaghetti alla Carbonara ham, egg, onions, cheese	6.55	8.45
Spaghetti alle Vongole white clam sauce	6.55	8.45
Spaghetti al Ragù meat sauce	5.45	7.35

##### Fish

Filetti di Sogliola Dorati filet of sole, pan-fried	6.75	8.65
Filetti di Sogliola al Limone		
filet of sole, lemon and cream	6.75	8.65
Gamberi Dorati fried prawns	8.55	10.45
Gamberi al Limone prawns sauté lemon and cream	8.55	10.45
Calamari Fritti fried calamari	6.65	8.55
Calamari Marinara calamari sauté garlic and tomato	6.65	8.55

##### Chicken

Pollo al Mattone broiled sauté with wine	6.95	8.85
Pollo alla Cacciatora sauté with vegetables	6.95	8.85

##### Veal

Cotoletta Milanese breaded and fried	7.95	9.85
Cotoletta Parmigiana veal parmigiana	8.25	10.15
Vitella Piccata scaloppine, cream, lemon, capers	8.15	10.05
Vitella al Limone scaloppine, cream, lemon	7.95	9.85
Scaloppine al Marsala con Funghi		
mushrooms, marsala, wine, and cream	8.25	10.15

##### Mamma's Specialties

Melanzane alla Parmigiana eggplant parmigiana	6.75	9.65
Match veal and prawns sauté lemon cream sauce	8.35	10.25
Pollo della Casa		
chicken sauté lemon and cream sauce	6.95	8.85
Penne del Bosco		
pasta/mostaccioli with cream, cheese, mushrooms, splash tomato sauce	5.65	7.55
Lobster Fradiavolo		
sauté butter, onions, ham, mushrooms, etc.—spicy	12.25	14.15

##### Also Nightly Specials

##### Desserts

Buckingham Delight Italian trifle	2.10
Zabaione for Two whipped egg with marsala wine	4.90
Cheese Cake	1.95
Mamma Vittoria Gelato ice cream	1.55

##### Beverages

House Wine Burgundy and Chablis	
1 liter carafe	5.35
½ liter carafe	3.00
¼ liter carafe	2.00
Glass	1.10
Other Wines	see wine list
Beers	see wine list
Sodas, Coffee (regular or decaf.), Tea, Milk	.75

##### Mokas

Espresso	1.10
Cappuccino or Caffellatte	1.45

\*Dinner includes Soup or Salad and Pasta—Dinner 6:00 pm–10:00 pm Nightly  
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# SHORT TAKES

## Quake Benefit

The disastrous earthquake that devastated Mexico City last September continues to affect the city's residents, and historically deprived districts like Morelos and Tepito seem particularly beyond the reach of relief efforts. These areas are the target of fundraising efforts by People to People, a collaboration of several San Francisco arts organizations including the Mexican Museum, the Mission Cultural Center, La Raza Graphic Center, Mission Grafica, and Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24.

To provide a visual focus for People to People's efforts, Galeria de la Raza at 2851 24th St. (near Bryant) is mounting an exhibit of photographs, text and mixed media called "The Earthquake in Mexico—Tragedy and Hope" from Feb. 21 to March 29. Among the photos, which document the effects of the earthquake and the plans to rebuild, are several taken by Noe Valley photographer David Goodyear.

The exhibit opens with a reception for the participating artists at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21. Call 826-8009 for more information.

## The Health Beat

New College of California is continuing its year-and-a-half-old series of Monday night presentations on health issues, and this year is asking for suggestions for topics from the local community. Michael McAvoy, coordinator of the "Focus on Health" program, says the school is "going to the Noe Valley and Mission communities to find out what issues people want addressed" in the lecture/discussions, which take place at 7:30 p.m. in the New College Theater, 777 Valencia St. New College held a neighborhood meeting Feb. 3 and hopes to get more local feedback at additional meetings in the coming months.

Topics scheduled for this month are nursing in Oakland (Feb. 10); the use of imagination in healing, with lecturer Stan Dale (Feb. 17); and teenage depression (Feb. 24). To find out more about these presentations or to contribute an idea about future activities, call the college at 626-1694.

In other health news, Mount Zion Hospital, 1600 Divisadero St., is offering free checkups for persons 60 or older who have not seen a physician for at least a year. The screening includes a physical exam, lab profile, assessment of dental needs and speech and hearing abilities, referrals to medical and community resources, and follow-up when appropriate. Call Anya Schratz at 885-7529 if you or someone you know qualifies.

## At the Lick Library

The library of James Lick Middle School, 1220 Noe St., received a \$2,500 grant last month to provide high-interest, low-reading-level books for students who need to improve their reading skills. Donated as part of a reading project called "Books Are Fun," the grant was made by the San Francisco Education Fund, a non-profit organization dedicated to upgrading the quality of education in San Francisco's public schools.

According to school librarian Jeanne McHugh, some 200 new books have already been purchased with the grant money and are being processed for placement in the library. The books have a multi-cultural emphasis and are designed to appeal to all students through their varied subject matter and attractive illustrations.

Because each book requires about 12



## Movin' On Up

*A student of Immaculate Conception High School dons a hard hat to help guide traffic around the construction site near 24th and Fair Oaks. When it's finished this spring, the building will house a gym and new classrooms for the school. Photo by Charles Kennard*

steps in processing before it can be loaned out to students, the school needs volunteers to help speed up the handling. Anyone who'd like to give two or more hours per week to the project should contact the school at 648-8080.

## AIDS Action

The public shock over acquired immune deficiency syndrome has had the effect of galvanizing public attention and action along a number of different lines. A unique example is the Whole-Picture Project, located at 2215-R Market St., which believes that "the mass media, both gay and straight, have failed to provide a coverage of AIDS that is grounded on vigorous investigative reporting." Founders of the project are concerned that "people who have life-saving information cannot get it into the hands of those who need it most, medical researchers needlessly duplicate each other's studies, a swelling tide of homophobia sweeps along... and an ill-informed government responds with halting, piecemeal and uncoordinated policies."

The Whole-Picture Project proposes to underwrite the expenses and salary of a lesbian or gay reporter who for one year will travel around the country helping to get the story straight. The facilitators are seeking donors who would be willing to select the journalist and serve on the project's board of directors. If you can help, call 547-2200.

Meanwhile, the San Francisco Human Rights Commission is holding public hearings Feb. 4 and 5 to study AIDS-based discrimination in employment, corrections, insurance, housing, medical and social services, research and education. The commission has found that such discrimination "is adding a tremendous burden to people who are already coping with a devastating disease, as well as adversely affecting individuals without the disease merely because they are members of a high-risk group." The hearings will come up with recommendations for legislation, program development, funding and staffing. You can attend the hearings, which run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. both days at 350 McAllister St., Room 1194, or call Jackie, Sue or Dan at 558-4901 for further information.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahar, which serves the gay and lesbian Jewish community, has selected three recipients of awards of \$500 each from its AIDS fund for 1986. They are the food bank of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the volunteer training project of the Shanti Proj-

ect, and the AIDS anti-discrimination work of the National Gay Rights Advocates. If you're interested in supporting the AIDS fund or other activities of the congregation, located at 220 Danvers, call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

## New Images

The progress (and frustrations) of women in the trades will be portrayed in videos and photographs on Feb. 22 at Video Free America, 442 Shotwell. The program, titled "Breaking Ground," will include a series of photos of tradeswomen taken between 1972 and 1986 by Bay Area photographers Ann Meredith, Sandy Thacker and Cathy Cade. The videos are "Trade Secrets: Blue-Collar Women Speak Out" by Stephanie Antalocy, "Women of Steel" by Mon Valley Media, and "Would You Let Someone Do This to Your Sister" by the Women's Committee of the United Auto Workers. Call 821-7334 for times and prices. All proceeds will benefit Tradeswomen, Inc., a membership organization founded in 1979 to support women who work in non-traditional blue-collar jobs.

## A Friendly Handout

As noted elsewhere in this issue, Friends of Noe Valley has decided to give some money—up to \$2,000—to a worthy neighborhood activity. Friends' Grant Committee, which met at the home of Claire Pilcher Feb. 22, wants the award to go to a neighborhood-serving, non-profit group or individual, or to a local school or library project. Past recipients have included the Childcare Switchboard, the Diamond Street Senior Center, and the Noe Valley Co-op Nursery School. If you're interested in applying or helping the committee, write Mary Ann Malinak-Magnus, 4341 Army St., SF 94131, or call Pilcher at 821-1186.

## Music From Memphis

Variety is the keynote for this month's Saturdays at the Noe Valley Music series. Feb. 8 brings Jesse Winchester, a Tennessee-bred singer/guitarist/songwriter familiar to many veterans of the late '60s and early '70s. The latest of his Warner Brothers/Bearsville records, *Talk Memphis*, garnered this evaluation from the *L.A. Weekly*: "a rarity in that it touches deep soul territory with a host of Winchester originals, never losing the sensitive edge." Pierce Pettis will open for

Winchester.

On Feb. 15 Geoff Hoyle, long a mainstay of the Pickle Family Circus, will present new material from his bag of zany physical comedy. Mark Izu (bass) and Louis Jordan (sax), one-half of the legendary progressive jazz group United Front, will perform a duo concert Feb. 22. And rhiannon (formerly lead vocalist for Alive!) and Terri Baum will get together for an evening of music and improvised theater on March 1. All these events begin at 8:15 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., and you can call the Ministry at 282-2317 for more information.

## Cultural Evolution

Artists and audiences who remember the variety of cultural events once offered at the Intersection in North Beach are in for some good news. The Intersection for the Arts, which had to leave its 15-year home at 756 Union St. early last year, has announced that it will now be occupying the Valencia Rose, which had to close a couple of months back. Intersection's performance, literary and visual arts programs will be moving into a space twice as large as their old one, including two theatres, a rehearsal room, galleries, a literary reading room, cafe and offices. A gala opening benefit will inaugurate full programming at the new site, located at 766 Valencia St., in mid-March. For more information, call 397-6061.

## Valentine Volunteers

While you're feeling magnanimous in the month of love, how about spreading a little of it around? The following places need volunteers, so put them on your Valentines list:

- Children's Services of the San Francisco Public Library wants you to help read to hospitalized kids. Call Marcia Schneider at 431-7479 to find out about volunteer training.

- Rosalie House seeks volunteers to work in its shelter for women survivors of violence and their children. Women of color, bilingual women, and women who have survived violence themselves are especially encouraged to contact Teresa Kinney at 861-2566 for information and an interview appointment.

- Organizers, receptionists and drivers who can bring patients to treatment all help implement the activities of the American Cancer Society, headquartered at 545 Post St. Phone Sally Shankland at 673-7979.



## Local Bargains



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# A Pair of Exotic Eateries Brighten Local Taste Buds

By Jeff Kaliss

The year 1985 saw the exploration of new and exotic territory east and west from the boundaries of 24th Street's Restaurant Row. Eunice's, dedicated to "the South American way" and Brazilian food in particular, established itself as the eastern outpost, just past Valencia Street. And Rin's set up on the western front, near Douglass Street, offering the cuisine of Thailand. By the end of the year, both restaurants seemed to be savoring the sweet taste of success.

## Delight at a Good Price

The neighborhood's first Thai restaurant is named for the daughter of Yupa Garrett, who co-owns the place with Linda Chaikwang, her sister. Chaikwang, now a Clipper Street resident, came to San Francisco from Thailand in 1969, and Yupa, then 22, followed in 1971.

The sisters claim credit for whetting the Bay Area's appetite for Thai food, beginning with their Racha Cafe, which opened on Ellis Street in 1972. The next dozen years brought some two dozen Thai competitors.

Last year Chaikwang got a tip from a realtor friend located near her downtown luncheon spot (Linda's Place), and she and her sister ended up purchasing the 24th Street site formerly occupied by Noble Pies, an outlet for English-style meat, chicken and fruit pastries.

Although they had to greatly expand the kitchen and shield it from the dining area with a partition, the sisters found it relatively inexpensive to set up Rin's. Most importantly, they didn't have to shell out the "good will" fee paid by new owners who want to continue the business of the old owners. They also avoided heavy advertising, opting to simply post a sign in the window with samples from the menu, and thus advise the neighborhood that something new was coming. "People just hlocked the place up the first night we opened" last March, recalls Garrett, an intense but friendly woman.

Generally favorable reviews by Bea Pixa in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and Patricia Unterman in the *Chronicle Examiner's* pink section increased Rin's popularity and the length of the wait to be seated. "Anytime when people are waiting outside," says Garrett, "I go out of my way and make some appetizers to

accommodate them." She also offers beer and wine to soothe the anticipation.

The reward for customers' patience is a delicately exotic meal of Thai food that, in the words of Rin's menu, "combines a variety of contrasting flavors—hot, sweet, sour—all in one dish."

The first such dish, preceding most of Rin's entrees, is a carrot and cabbage salad, revealing what Garrett cites as a characteristic difference between Thai and other Asian cuisines: "Chinese food uses a lot of vinegar. Thai food uses a lot of lemon juice instead of vinegar."

Garrett spends considerable time hand-picking her vegetables, spices, and other ingredients from markets in Chinatown and the Sunset and a Thai specialty store in Daly City. "Thai food has things like lemongrass, things like galanga [like ginger but stronger], very different from the just plain vinegar, just plain garlic, or just plain pepper that they use in Chinese restaurants," notes Garrett.

The Thais are also proud of their improvements on dishes featured by other ethnic chefs. "The curry, for instance, we make from scratch. We don't open a package and put it in the saucepan," Garrett points out. "I tell my staff to make it from the lemongrass, the garlic, the red onion, the galanga, then blend it together and slow-cook for hours. We, in turn, make it into curry sauce by adding coconut milk and then the seasoning."

Likewise for satay, a peanut-based sauce commonly found in Indonesian dishes. "Their satay is definitely the originator of all the satays," acknowledges Garrett, "but may I say the Thai people perfected it." This they did, she says, by subtracting some of the sweetness and adding spices.

At Rin's, the satay graces many of the chicken, pork and beef entrees. The menu also includes seafood, noodle and vegetarian dishes, and combination plates.

All of this is served up by young and gracious waitpersons, most of whom are Thai students. Garrett feels proud that she is offering her staff "a good start" in the restaurant business, and she helps them get acquainted with wine names by writing them phonetically in Thai.

Rin's low-to-moderate prices are no less an attraction than the suppers and the service. At \$6.95, the combination plates (including steamed rice and Thai salad) are the most expensive items on the menu, and most items average \$2 less.



Eunice de Silva Taylor sends her customers home happy and full of her tangy tropical food. She moved her Brazilian restaurant from downtown to 24th Street last year.  
Photo by Mariella Poli.

## An Eclectic Eatery

Eunice de Silva Taylor, a dark and lively woman with a stunning smile whose conversation is peppered with the Portuguese "mas" instead of "but," is Brazilian born and bred. But (mas) she points out that the cuisine of her native country is actually quite heterogeneous, influenced by the various European, Near Eastern and Asian cultures which have taken root there during the past couple of centuries.

Her restaurant, Eunice's (pronounced "eh-yoo-nee-say's"), at 3392 24th St., reflects this diversity. In addition to feijoada and red snapper in coconut milk, recognizable as typical Brazilian dishes, there are selections from Spain, India, and Louisiana. As Taylor puts it, "If I eat something, I can make it."

Before coming to 24th Street last July, Eunice's was located for four years on North Fifth Street near the busy downtown corner of Powell and Market. Taylor was doing a brisk lunch and adequate dinner business and was looking forward to the opening of the Ramada Renaissance Hotel across the street when a sharp rent increase forced her to close.

Relocation to the site of a former Mexican cafeteria on the edge of Noe Valley brought with it the advantages of cheaper rent (\$1,000 a month) and proximity to Taylor's Douglass Street home and to many of her friends and neighbors. But it seemed impractical to continue lunches in the face of competition from nearby fast-food outlets. Taylor instead put her energy and capital into carpeting the space, painting it yellow and green (Brazil's national colors), and installing the kitchen equipment from North Fifth Street. Like Rin's, Eunice's was spared the cost of "good will," since she did not intend to draw on the former occupant's clientele (and found, in fact, that not many came in).

By the end of last year, Taylor, who does most of her own cooking, was turning out between 12 and 18 dinners a night on weekdays and sometimes as many as 35 on weekends. Many of her repeat diners were either Brazilians or Americans who had been to Brazil, attracted not only by the cooking but by the relaxed, friendly ambience and the recorded Brazilian music accompanying their dining.

The entree prices at Eunice's—which include a salad with homemade dressing,

seasoned and fried rice, and black beans or vegetables—are generally between \$3 and \$5 higher than Rin's, but Taylor believes "it's not expensive here, because people never leave saying the food was not enough... they can even take it home."

One of the more filling choices is feijoada (pronounced "fay-jwa-da"), which Taylor describes as "like a stew. You cook the beans, you cook smoked spare ribs and smoked sausage separate. You season the beans after you cook them and you put the meat in. We serve with rice and collard greens." The result, predictably, is a hot, spicy, succulent and generous meal, a little like what you'd expect from a New Orleans home kitchen.

The restaurant's staff is small and amicable. Aside from herself, Taylor has one regular waiter and someone to help with preparation and dishwashing. When things get busy, she brings in extra help (some of them fellow Brazilians).

Taylor notes that she creates all her seasonings and many of her variations on entrees like paella, gumbo, jambalaya, and prawns with green sauce. She buys provisions at Casa Lucas, on 24th near Alabama Street, and at an Indian store on Mission. "I work in my food," she declares.

She also works another job as a nurse at U.C. San Francisco and produces food for sale at Berkeley's Co-op. In whatever time she has left, she stays involved in local Brazilian affairs, and has sold food, danced, and won costume prizes at the annual carnivals.

## The Next Course

Though happy with their locations, both restaurants must proceed cautiously during 1986. Taylor wants to install a better hi-fi system and mirrors. She realizes that "you have to see how the business is coming, then you can start improving things."

Garrett would like to start offering lunches and add tables so that "a group of eight or nine could sit down comfortably" at Rin's. But she also feels that "we're still too early in the leasing plan with our landlord to do anything." The inevitable inflation of the cost of raw materials may necessitate a rise in Rin's modest menu prices.

Still, Garrett shares the opinion of this writer when she says that "the Bay Area is so fortunate—including myself—for all the cuisines that we have here." □



Co-owner Yupa Garrett and waitress Vane Phommachanh stand behind the exotic Thai delicacies served with a smile at Rin's restaurant. Opened last spring, Rin's has already garnered good reviews. Photo by Charles Kennard.

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# High Speed in a Dry State

By Mory Moser

"Mama, I gotta pee."  
"No you don't."

"Mama, really, I gotta go bad."

Mama squinted through the windshield and hunched forward, peeling her damp cotton shirt off the back of the seat. Through the tinted glass, the hot morning light smoked her tanned face a shade of green. "Noah, you do not have to pee because I told all you kids to pee before we got into this car less than sixty miles ago. I'm sure you peed when I told you to. Right?"

Silence from the back seat.

Topping a rise, Mama strained her eyes at the desert horizon. The road fell ahead, raw bluffs on each side reddening in the rising sun. Sixty miles, she thought. Out of how many, four twenty-eight? If we make it to Winnemucca today, it'll be an easy drive into San Francisco tomorrow. If.

"Mama, I'm hungry."

"Who said that? Emma? How dare you, when you wouldn't even finish your cereal?"

"It was yucky."

Mama waved a sunburned hand toward the back seat. "Emma, it was just like cereal at home."

"The milk was warm. I want a sandwich, okay?"

"Absolutely not okay!" Mama punched each word. "We will stop for lunch and for peeing when we've made two hundred miles. Now knock it off back there!"

Mama hunched again, easing her shoulders. She took off her sunglasses and mopped her forehead with the back of her hand. Through the open windows hot air roared around her head, whipping the gray wisps escaping from her headband. Ugly, ugly, she thought, glaring back at the landscape. The Mormons should have left this vacant lot for the jackrabbits.

She flipped on the radio. Hum. Cosmic roar. She snapped it off again. "Cripes, we are so nowhere, we can't even get static!"

"Mama, how long have we been driving?"

"C'mon, Naomi, figure it out. I just said we'd gone sixty miles. How long does that take?"

"I don't know."

"Well, how fast are we driving?"

"Too fast."

"What do you mean, 'too fast'?"

"Cause there's a car behind us that has a light on top and I think it's a cop."

"Oh, shit." Mama's foot lifted instantly from the accelerator but resisted pressing the brake. Why give him the satisfaction, she thought. She slugged the stick into third and heard the whining resistance of the heavy engine. Yeah, there he is, she thought, glowering at the flash in her rear-view mirror. Her hands tightened on the wheel and the van slowed gradually on the down-grade. Braking finally, Mama bumped the van onto the shoulder and cut the engine.

"I don't believe this," she hissed to herself. "Utah, of all places."

"Here he comes," she raised her voice without turning her head. "Not a sound out of you kids, you hear me? Not



Writer Mary Moser enjoys the scenery right in her own back yard on Fair Oaks Street. Photo by Charles Kennard.

*Editor's Note: The story reproduced below, by Mary Moser, is the second prize winner in last year's fiction contest. Tom Hollis' first prize story appeared in the Voice's December/January issue.*

*If Moser's account of family frustration on the road has a certain ring of truth, that's because the story comes "unfortunately," she says, from her own experience. Writing for publication is a relatively new journey for the mother of three, and this piece is the first she's had appear in print since a poem in her*

*elementary school paper back in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she grew up.*

*Moser now lives on Fair Oaks Street near 23rd and is a founding member of the Fair Oaks Neighbors association. She's been taking college extension writing classes since her kids got old enough to take care of themselves. They were reportedly very proud when their mom received her prize money and told her they hoped it would be "enough to cover the ticket." That'll make sense once you read the story.*

one word!"

The trooper sauntered up to Mama's window. "Good mornin', ma'am," he drawled.

"Why good mornin', officer. Is there a problem?" Mama's voice was tight and slick, not like Mama at all.

"Well, yes, ma'am. My radar clocked you at seventy-one miles per hour comin' down this hill."

"Oh no! Is that right? You know, officer, I just can't argue with you a bit. This big car picks up speed goin' downhill. It's so hard to judge by the feel of it. And I confess, my eyes weren't on the speedometer." Mama smiled pensively and shook her head.

"No," said the officer. "You sure weren't watchin' the speed."

"You're right," said Mama. "I couldn't take my eyes off this scenery. Those rosy red hills with the sun rising on them and the scrub trees so green, almost black. And the sky! Look how those pink streamers rise with a hawk at the end like a kite on a string." Mama was really cooking and her eyes were shiny. "It's so spectacular, it's got me spellbound."

"It is right pretty, ma'am. Could I see your license, please?"

"Oh, sure," she handed it to him.

"Pretty! It's nothin' like where we come from. Ever since we crossed the border into Utah! I told the kids, 'You'll never

see anything like this again.'"

"Well, we have had an unusual amount of rain for this time of year." He gazed off into the sky for a moment. "You wait just a moment, ma'am."

Moving back to the squad car with Mama's license, the trooper consulted with his radio. Watching him in the mirror, Mama gritted her teeth. She slammed her head against the head-rest, her lean body rigid, unmoving. A sort of low growling sound circled up from inside her.

The trooper loped back to the car. "Well, now, ma'am." He peered at the kids in the back, silent and saucer-eyed, and smiled. "I'm just going to say that you were doing sixty-four miles in a fifty-five mile zone. You have three days to appear in court, or you can pay the fine like it says on the back here."

Mama signed the ticket and smiled again. "Okay, officer. I sure will keep my eyes on the road from now on."

He gave her a thumbs-up sign and turned back to his car. Scowling now, Mama ground the ignition and yanked at the brake release. She bounced the van back onto the empty highway. "One damn car on the whole damn road from Wyoming to Winnemucca," she bel-lowed, "and it has to be a state trooper!"

In the back the kids were quiet, and high above a hawk spun silently on a pink silk streamer. □

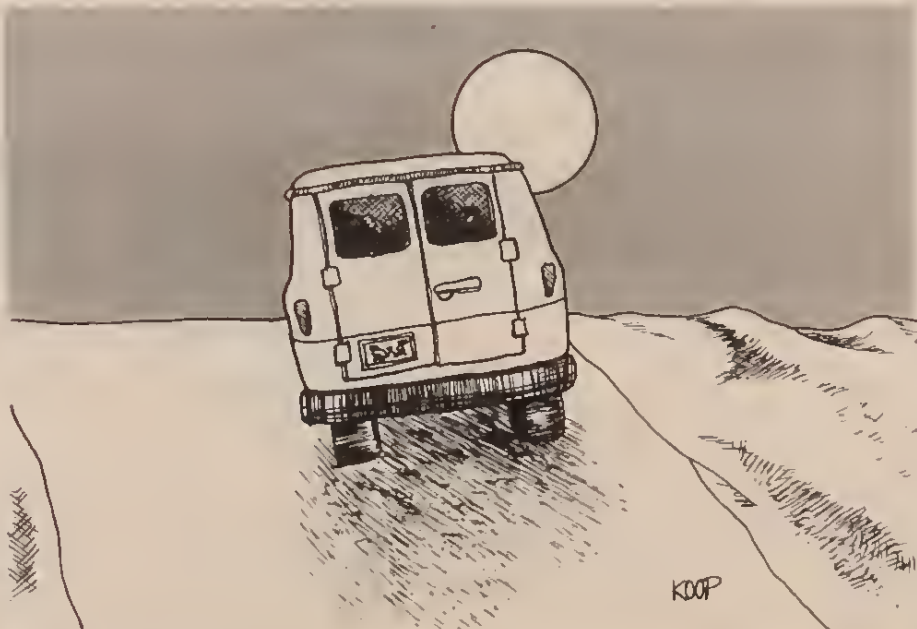


Illustration by Susan Koop

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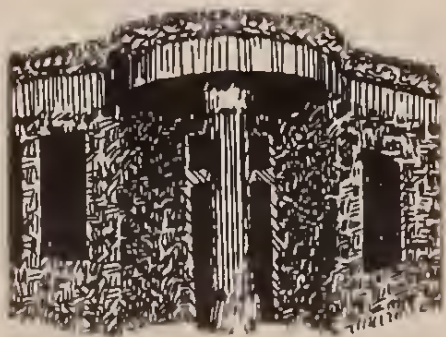
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# Origins of the Day of Love

By Gardner Haskell

Everyone knows when Valentine's Day is, Feb. 14. But no one seems to know the who, what, why and where.

According to the *World Book* encyclopedia, some authorities trace Valentine's Day to an ancient Roman festival called Lupercalia, an anti-wolf rite held Feb. 15 back B.C. During the ceremony, "young men struck people with strips of animal hide," and the "women took the blows because they thought that the whipping made them more fertile." Some valentine.

More modern theorists think the day is connected to one or the other of the early Christian church's two saints named Valentine. One St. Valentine was a priest living during the reign of Roman Emperor Claudius II (A.D. 200s). As the story goes, the emperor felt that young single men made better soldiers and forbade them to marry. But Valentine, being something of a romantic, went ahead and secretly married young couples anyway. He was beheaded in Rome on Feb. 14 for illegally tying nuptial knots.

Another Valentine, also an early Christian, made friends with many children. The Romans put him in prison because he refused to worship their gods. The children missed Valentine so much that they tossed love notes through the bars of his cell window. According to the Roman history of martyrs, he too was executed on Feb. 14.

Both Valentines died for love—one for marrying the lovestruck, the other for loving his God more than life. In 496 A.D., Pope Gelasius honored them by making Feb. 14 St. Valentine's Day.

The earliest English references to Valentine's Day said that birds chose their mates on that day. Poet Geoffrey Chaucer, writing in the 1300s, made note of an event "on St. Valentine's Day, when every fowl cometh to choose his mate." And a character in Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream," upon discovering two lovers in the woods, asks, "St. Valentine is past; begin these woodbirds but to couple now?"

In 18th century England, single women could discover who their future husbands would be by writing men's names on scraps of paper, rolling them into little pieces of clay, and dropping them into a pool of water. The first paper that rose to the surface supposedly had the name of the woman's one true love. This was probably more likely to work if the woman wrote the same name a hundred times.

Another prophetic trick women tried in the 1700s was pinning five bay leaves to their pillows on the evening of St. Valentine's Day. If this worked correctly, they saw their future husbands in their dreams.

For a man, an old custom was to write women's names on slips of paper and then draw one from a jar. The woman whose name was drawn became his Valentine, and he paid special attention to her.

Nowadays, both sexes use a variety of ways on Valentine's Day to let others know they're the object of their affection. It is, however, the one day of the year when Gertrude Stein was wrong. A rose is much more than just a rose.

Even a kiss is more than just a kiss. □



If he can stand the fog in his skivvies, Cupid will once again be hunting hearts this month along neighborhood hills and dales. He dallies here for a moment in the window at Printmasters on 24th Street. Photo by Tina Wendt-Abramson



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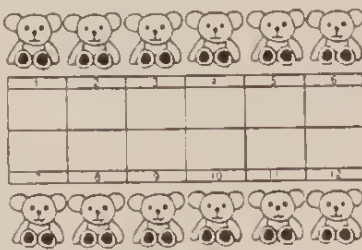
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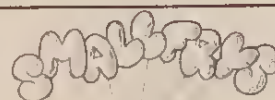
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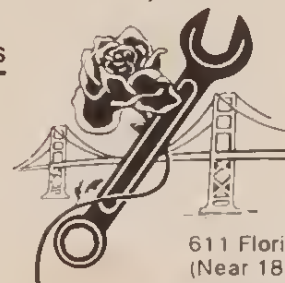
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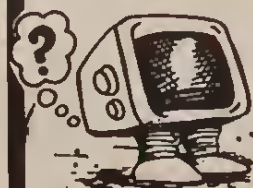
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By Mazook

**NOE SCENTS ETAL:** As you emerge from your house for that wintry walk, the faint scent of the neighbor's Durafume log is all that lingers in your nostrils. But as you approach Downtown Noe Valley, the motor vehicle exhaust begins to dent the ocean air, and a veritable varietal bouquet of odors is yours for the sniffing.

Common Scents is probably everyone's favorite: the vapors of hundreds of lotions, potions and notions stream onto 24th Street, luring the passing crowd. Then there's the Kim Lee Laundromat, enticing you with the sweet smell of freshly washed pillow cases.

For octane aficionados, Dan's Gas has its own unique attraction. And passing by any one of our local pizzareas raises all kinds of Pavlovian responses. "Pepperoni with extra cheese, please," for one. The incredible vapors that float out of 24th Street Cheese could become sensational with the first hot spell, but the Cork 'n' Bottle, which is famous for its "authentic" atmosphere, always comes on strong.

On a Saturday morning, your olfactory organ might lure you to the corner of 24th and Noe to join the queue at Herb's Fine Foods. Or if visions of the International House of Carbohydrates enter your head, you might wander across the street to Panos for a "Saturday Special" of pancakes, eggs, sausage or bacon (extra crispy, please).

The entryways of two of Noe Valley's more successful restaurants, La Roca and Little Italy, are generally hazy with plumes of garlic, spilling out onto the street to tantalize the hordes of people waiting to be seated. If you situate yourself in front of the Meatmarket Coffeehouse, and the hreezes are blowing your way, you can have the unusual odorific experience of Little Italy's garlic mixed with the coffeehouse cappuccino filling one nostril while nail polish remover from Fancy Fingers invades the other. Ooo-weee!

You know it's time to go home when a gust of wind in front of the Wells Fargo automat sends a passel of deposit tickets and lotto ticket scrapings into your mouth.... Enough of this non-scents.

☎ ☎ ☎

**SOME REAL NEWS WE'VE SNIFFED OUT:** Rumors are rampant that Downtown Noe Valley's last dime store, Glen 5 & 10, may be on its way out after 26 years on 24th Street (and before that it was Smith's Variety). John Remak, who owns the store with his two brothers, would only say, "Nothing is definite yet, we'll know in a month, anything's possible," but all us five-and-

## and now for the **RUMORS** behind the news



Customers at the Wells Fargo automatic tellers have a tendency to leave a paper trail that leads to nothing but a nuisance for clean-up crews. Photo by Tina Wendt-Abramson.

dimers are worried. You may recall that the three brothers' father, Henry Remak, opened the first Glen 5 & 10 in Glen Park (at Chenery and Diamond) back in the spring of '42. The Remaks presently operate four stores in the Bay Area. Let's hope it stays that way. Write your congressperson.

Rumors that Bill Ver Brugge would open a fish market in the space he's building next to Bell Market have not panned out. "I thought about it seriously," says Bill. "but I'm 73 years old now, fish, run a restaurant [Ver Brugge's at 2922 Domingo in Berkeley, next to the Claremont Hotel], and I'm busy as a catfish as it is now, and I can't do it." His popular meat market used to be across the street in a spot now occupied by Real Food Co. Bill fought hard for and won a building permit to remodel the bottom floor of the Victorian next to Bell, but he sounds worn from the battle. "My space will be for lease," he said regretfully.

Also saying bye-hye is Vic Macia, who was promoted from captain of Mission Police Station to deputy police chief by

new Police Chief Frank Jordan last month. Macia has been replaced at Mission Station by Capt. Michael Lennon, who is no stranger to Noe Valley having once been Ingleside Station captain. (The central Valley area south of Army Street falls under Ingleside's jurisdiction.)

Good news from local artist-laureate Ruth Asawa. She just unveiled a 13-foot-high stainless steel fountain sculpture, featuring an eastward-looking Aurora, the goddess of dawn. The fountain stands in front of a new eight-story office building on the Embarcadero (near Howard) which was designed by Noe Valley architect Ed Tower.

☎ ☎ ☎

**NOE LISTS QUIZ.** The items in each of the following lists have something in common. Your job is to identify the commonality. For example, what do Clipper, Elizabeth, Douglass, Sanchez, Fountain and 30th have in common? (This one is ridiculously easy.) Answer: they are all streets in Noe Valley.

If you correctly identify six of the lists,

you are good; if you get seven, you're great; and if you get all eight, you should be writing this column. Ready?

1. Blanche, Nellie, Mersey, Quane, Rayburn, Comerford.

2. Bill Kuhns, David Neely, Barbara Holman, Elizabeth Navas, John Knox, Miriam Blaustein, Lorraine Sherril, Jacques Bertrand, Barbara Hopkins, and Erik Shapiro.

3. Noescapes, Noe Daze and Nights, Ulysses, 24th Street Blues, the Downtown Noe Valley Dew Drop Inn, the VFW (Veterans of Finnegan's Wake) Club, and Mr. Ketchup.

4. 3-J's, R3, Corn Flaker, Wild Will, Mixo, Phogge, Cactus, War, E.T., Big Sko, Shorty, the Wolf and Ma Butts.

5. LTM, LHG, WOD, JTC, RW, and 25St.

6. Ron Green's plant store, Malon DeLoache's barber shop, Meyer's Variety, Noe Theater, Chrysalis, Den Christopher, The Needle's Eye, Elaine's and Finnegan's Wake.

7. Tiny, Dinks/Dinx, Quiz, Dazel, Anti, Dwarfph, Size, Twick, Phast, Slimm, Slime, Casper and Spray/Spraze/Haze/Raze/Maze.

8. James Lick Middle School, Edison School, Muni shelters at 18th and Church and Church and Chattanooga, the wall on the J-Church line between 20th and 22nd streets, and all the trash cans on 24th Street from Church to Diamond.

And now the answers:

1. Alleys in Noe Valley.

2. Members of the Fall 1985 Friends of Noe Valley Steering Committee.

3. Some of the entries in the "Name the Bar" contest sponsored by the owner of what is now called Noe Body's Inn. (By the way, the winner of the Halloween night contest was local yokel Lori Gottlieb, who, along with some friends, drank her way through the \$500 bar tab which was her prize by Nov. 15.)

4. Nicknames of some fanatical football freaks in the Valley.

5. The initials of six alleged Noe Valley youth gangs.

6. Downtown Noe Valley businesses that are now history.

7. Graffiti artists who splatter their names on Noe Valley walls.

8. Places attacked by Fred "Who Else?" Methner's painthrust-wielding anti-graffiti forces in the month of December.

☎ ☎ ☎

That brings us to Mazook's **NOE VALLEY MEDALLION AWARD** for 1985. The medal goes to Mr. Citizen, the unofficial mayor of Noe Valley, local do-it-all, Honorable First Secretary of the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, graffiti sleuth and slayer, good neighbor and all-round great guy, who else but... Fred Methner. Congratulations, Fred. Byeccc. □

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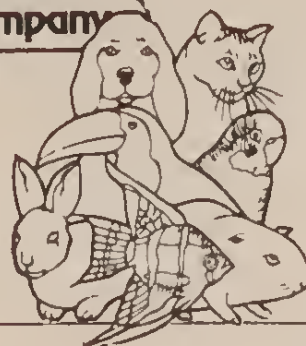
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**San Francisco Rock:**  
*The Illustrated History of*  
**San Francisco Rock Music 1965-1985**  
 By Jack McDonough  
 Chronicle Books, \$16.95

**San Francisco Nights:**  
*The Psychedelic Music Trip,*  
**1965-1968**  
 By Gene Sculatti and Davin Seay  
 St. Martin's Press, \$12.95

Reviewed by Kit Cameron

Sometime during my freshman year in college I was introduced to the Fillmore—the old Fillmore, the real Fillmore—with its dank scuzzy halls, day-glo paint on the floor, light shows spilling over the stage, and psychedelic posters trumpeting names like the Mystery Trend, Quicksilver Messenger Service, Big Brother and the Holding Company, Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead.

Little did I know that I was listening to the birth pangs of the "San Francisco Sound," that particular brand of free-form music that was to revolutionize rock history. If I'd been smart, I would have taken notes and, some 20 years later, produced a memoir the likes of *San Francisco Rock* or *San Francisco Nights*, two recently published books celebrating the scene.

In *San Francisco Rock*, Jack McDonough presents the story of the music and all the side trips—the promoters, the poster artists, the radio personalities and record producers—with the detailed intensity of someone who lived through it. His slickly produced bible is chock-full of photos, many of them (like the pre-Airplane shot of Grace Slick in tasteful mini and bouffant hairdo) revealing what a long way we all have come.

Spanning two decades of Bay Area music, the book trips from the 1965 beginnings of the flamboyant Charlatans (featuring Dan Hicks in silver-studded chaps) to the more recent reverberations of Romeo Void, Huey Lewis, and (my personal fave) Pearl Harbor and the Explosions. McDonough profiles some 50 individual performers and groups, the dazzlers as well as the duds. Remember Commander Cody lost in the ozone? Remember melodious Redwing? The Flamin' Groovies? Chinga Chaven and Country Porn?

According to McDonough, that the San Francisco scene happened at all was due to a unique combination of factors. First, San Francisco was (and still is) in California, the last frontier, the place where "in everything from aerospace to acupuncture...the Brave New World would be attempted." It was also a haven for all manner of eccentrics and freaks, tolerating creative geniuses and goof-offs alike. Two precursors, the Beat era and the anti-war movement at Berkeley, nurtured the anti-materialist hippie ethic, and, finally, the Bay Area afforded a wealth of places to play. Bands performed on the streets, in the Panhandle, and in any decrepit dance hall they could find.

## Review



Sixteen years after her death, Janis Joplin remains one of the most visible and vital figures in the San Francisco music scene. Photo by Herbie Greene.

All it took was a couple of events to set the fire for an explosion. The Charlatans, with their flowing tresses, 19th century outfits and out-of-tune guitars, descended from the Sierra Nevada, where they had been entertaining a continuous flow of stoned-out kids. A loosely formed collective calling itself the Family Dog rented Longshoreman's Hall in October 1965 to produce "A Tribute to Dr. Strange," featuring not only the Charlatans, but the Jefferson Airplane and the Great Society (soon to donate both Grace Slick and its one hit song, "White Rabbit," to the Airplane). Music. Drugs. Dancing. Ralph Gleason (music critic for the *San Francisco Chronicle* and a sympathetic supporter of the scene in years to come) described it as "an early Halloween." It was as if what everyone had been waiting for had arrived.

The Family Dog, under the direction of Luria Castell and Chet Helms, continued to produce tripped-out dances, and another promoter entered the fray. Bill Graham, erstwhile manager of the San Francisco Mime Troupe, rapidly became the city's premier presenter of the new style of music. There were some ugly moments, like the time Graham got up at 6 a.m. to book the Paul Butterfield Blues Band right out from under Chet Helms' laidback nose. But Bill Graham knew what he wanted and he knew how

to make the audiences want it too.

First at the Fillmore Auditorium and then at the old Carousel Ballroom at Market and Van Ness, which he renamed Fillmore West, Graham molded the perfect psychedelic rock show—hundreds of them. He passed out posters which became collectable works of art. He handed out apples. He played "Greensleeves" to remind his stoned customers it was time to go home. The shows, headlined "Bill Graham Presents," created a distinctive atmosphere for listening and dancing to music that continues to this day.

It seemed as if everybody who could pick a guitar came to San Francisco between 1965 and 1968. Steve Miller, who cut his chops in the Chicago blues scene and thought the Airplane hopeless amateurs the first time he heard them, came to California and produced a visionary album, *Children of the Future*. Marin suburbanite John Cipollina, after hanging out on a boat in Sausalito, moved into a basement in North Beach with the core of what became Quicksilver Messenger Service. Janis Joplin found her way west from Texas and was put to work fronting Big Brother and the Holding Company. (One of the more touching photos in the book is an early one of a radiant Janis on stage in Golden Gate Park.) Acid was everywhere, living was cheap, love was free. For a short time,

it seemed that San Francisco had changed the world and it would never be the same again.

Of course, it couldn't last. "Brevity is the nemesis of intensity," says McDonough, as he charts the relentless slide of San Francisco from the briefly held pinnacle of rock. Drug deaths, personal misunderstandings and business disasters, combined with the inexorable shift of fashion, put the '60s in the shade. Many of the groups who fueled the dance hall scene sounded like psychedelic hable on records and made only one or two albums before dropping out of sight. The bands never seemed able to pool their energies and sustain the collective power of the particular time and place.

Flowers faded and the San Francisco Sound joined Tin Pan Alley in the annals of music history. Fortunately for us, many of the old musicians and even more new ones kept on playing. McDonough talks about the current scene, the punk movement and World Beat, demonstrating that "new frames in San Francisco's perpetual rock movies are still being shot every day."

Gene Sculatti and Davin Seay cover a more compressed arena in their book, *San Francisco Nights, the Psychedelic Music Trip, 1965-1968*. With fondly collected early graphics (including the first prototypes for the famous acid poster style) and gossipy anecdotes, they ramble through the brief incandescent history of psychedelic music.

Personalities like Luria Castell and Rachael Donahue (married to Tom Donahue and co-founder with him of late lamented KSAN, the original underground radio station) chat about their participation in the movement. Members of bands long since defunct, like Ron Nagle of the Mystery Trend, talk about their day in the sun: "We pulled up [to the Mime Troupe benefit orchestrated by Bill Graham] in our '51 Chevy sedan delivery truck and saw people lined up for two blocks. You couldn't get in... We were stoked that there were all these people willing to pay to see us." Jerry Garcia reminisces about Ken Kesey's notorious acid tests. Anyone who is a survivor of that period has a chance to share a personal vision of hippie Camelot.

The inevitable happens after reading either book (or for real nostalgia glutons, reading *both*). Glassy-eyed, a freshly rolled joint in hand, the reader will stagger over to the turntable, wipe the dust off the old album jackets, find that loose disc of Captain Beefheart at the back of the shell, and begin to play the music. And play the music some more. Because once you start remembering the glory days of acid rock, it may be hard to turn it off. □



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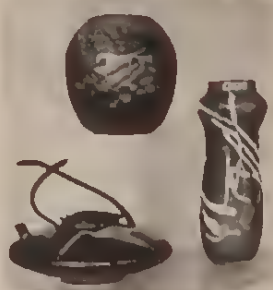


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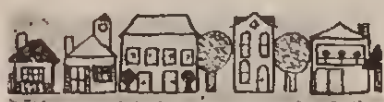


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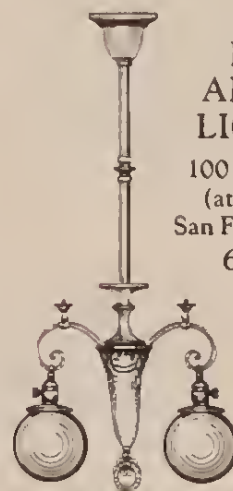
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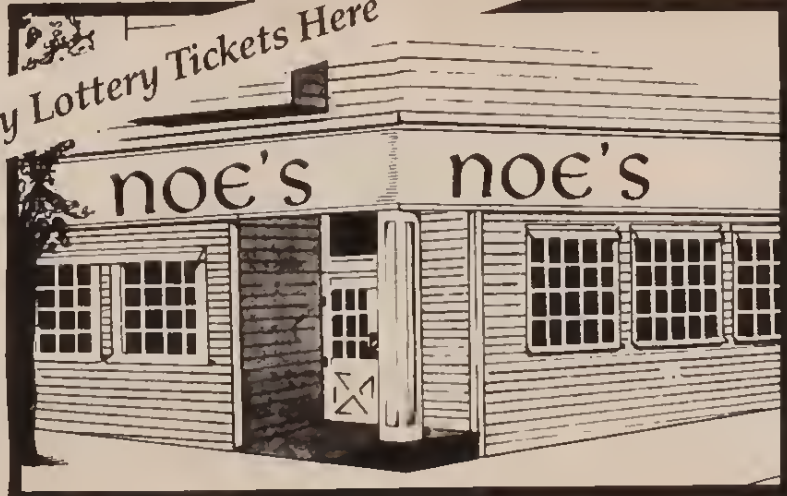
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## MORE MOUTHS to feed



Kristen Marie Gianaras with parents Violetta and John. Photo by Mariella Poli.

Last fall John Gianaras, owner of Panos' Restaurant on 24th Street, and wife Violetta, who manages Panos', couldn't agree on a boy's name for the child they were expecting. "All our friends cautioned us," remembers John, "that if you don't have a boy's name, it'll be a girl... and that's exactly what happened!"

Kristen Marie Gianaras happened exactly at 3:51 p.m. on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 1985, weighing in at eight pounds, seven ounces. The couple's first-born turned out to be a big consumer of what John calls "indirect baklava," that is, Greek food processed through her mother's breast. Kristen also "loves to party," says John. "At Thanksgiving, 50 people must have held her and played with her, and she never squeaked once."

The proud papa has to admit that his daughter constitutes "the biggest change to my lifestyle.... Just wanting to go to Bell Market, we have to think, geeze, are we gonna take the baby? And then

you gotta wrap her up, get the car seat ready, and get the bag in case she poops someplace. It *does* create a lot more logistical problems."

One solution the Gianaras have found is for Kristen to accompany Mommy to Panos three or four days a week, while Daddy pursues his real estate career. John says Kristen is already learning "how to handle the door" at the restaurant, but in the long view, the career choice will be hers to make. "The restaurant will always be there for her," John explains, "but I'll want her to have as many options as possible."

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*Sinner at Fairacre*—Miss Read  
*The Vampire Lestat*—Anne Rice  
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*The Stories of Muriel Spark*—Muriel Spark

### Non-Fiction

*Breakaway: on the Road with Tour de France*—Samuel Abt  
*San Francisco's Insider's Guide, 2nd Ed.*—John K. Bailey  
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*Dieting Makes You Fat*—Geoffrey Cannon

*California White Water: a Guide to the Rivers*—Jim Cassidy and Fryar Calhoun  
*Bird Owner's Home Health and Care Handbook*—Gary Gallerstein  
*Careers Without Reschooling: the Survival Guide to the Job Hunt for Liberal Arts Graduates*—Dick Goldberg  
*Cheeseburgers, the Best of Bob Greene*—Bob Greene  
*The Hachette Guide to France*  
*The City of Joy*—Dominique Lapierre  
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*Bugbusters: Getting Rid of Household Pests Without Dangerous Chemicals*—Bernice Litton  
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*Women Who Love Too Much: When You Keep Wishing and Hoping He'll Change*—Robin Norwood  
*Love and Money*—Sylvia Porter  
*Road & Track's Road Test Annual and Buyer's Guide, 1985*  
*Comet*—Carl Sagan  
*No Evil Star: Selected Essays, Interviews and Prose*—Anne Sexton  
*The Zero-sum Solution: Building a World-class American Economy*—Lester Thurow  
*The Great Towns of the West: a Guide to Their Special Pleasures*—David Vokac  
*Watching Fishes: Life and Behavior on Coral Reefs*—Roberta Wilson

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Illustration by Florence Holub

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# CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY 1986



Don't you dare miss comic Geoff Hoyle at the Noe Valley Ministry Feb. 15

**FEB. 1-28:** LANDSCAPES—photography by Martha Ley. Courtyard Cafe, 3913 24th St. 282-0344

**FEB. 1-MARCH 9:** The Eureka Theatre Company presents John Guare's period drama "GARDENIA," the story of a nurse and three Civil War veterans who attempt to create a Utopian commune on Nantucket Island. Eureka Theatre Company, 2730 16th St. 8 p.m. 558-9898

**FEB. 1-MARCH 9:** EXHIBIT "Singular Aspects: A Political and Social Landscape," featuring color photographs by Graham Budgett, David Goldberg and Timothy Tracz. Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. Gallery hours: Thurs.-Sun. 1-5 p.m. 431-6911

**FEB. 4:** PHYLLIS CHESLER discusses her new book, *Mothers on Trial: The Battle for Children and Custody*. Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 8 p.m. 821-4675

**FEB. 4-MARCH 2:** As a tribute to Black History Month, the Julian Theatre performs "LEGACY," a dance musical/scenario of black life from Africa to Harlem and from the Civil War to the present crisis in South Africa. Julian Theatre, 953 De Haro St. 8 p.m. 647-8098

**FEB. 4:** BLUES HARMONICA workshop with Dave Harp. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m. 821-0809

**FEB. 4 & 5:** The S.F. Human Rights Commission conducts PUBLIC HEARINGS on AIDS-related discrimination in employment, insurance, housing, etc. Room 1194, 350 McAllister St. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Childcare provided with 48-hour notice. 558-4901

**FEB. 4-26:** PRESCHOOL STORY TIME for ages 3-5 (Feb. 4, 18, 25, 11 a.m.) INFANT/TODDLER LAPSIT for infants to age 3 (Feb. 5, 19, 26, 7 p.m.) Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**FEB. 5:** LESBIAN/GAY OPEN POETRY READING. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

**FEB. 6:** SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING beginner class starts. All welcome, no partner necessary. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 333-9372

**FEB. 6:** JUNE JORDAN reads from her book *On Call*, a collection of political essays on South Africa, Israel, black English and Nicaragua. Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 821-4675

**FEB. 7:** Fassbinder directed the contemporary Gothic thriller "CHINESE ROULETTE" about ill-fated lovers who rendezvous at a secluded family castle. Noe Valley Cinema, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 7:** Visiting poet and essayist AUDRE LORDE joins PAT PARKER in a reading sponsored by S.F. State's Poetry Center. Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 8 p.m. 469-2227

**FEB. 7:** ORIGINAL SONGS by Stephen Riave that run the gamut from romance to revolution. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598

**FEB. 8:** Explore the cutting edge of San Francisco's NEW SONG MOVEMENT with music by Pat Wynne, Brook Schoenfeld, Sharon Bernstein, Jam Sylvan and Bernard Gilbert. Also featuring Sam Schuckitt, the harmonica man. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m. 282-9246

**FEB. 8:** GREAT PEACE MARCH pancake brunch/foot massage workshop. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. 826-5847

**FEB. 8:** FIRE IN THE LAKE, a collective of Bay Area artists and activists, celebrates the release of its book *conspire to breathe together*, with a political performance benefit for Amnesty International. Capp Street Center, 362 Capp St. 8 p.m. 626-1708

**FEB. 8:** Folk/country/rock great JESSE WINCHESTER performs with Pierce Pettis at the Noe Valley Music series. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 9:** OPEN HOUSE for Kids on Camera Acting School, including interviews with casting consultant Judy Berlin and the staff of Kids on Camera. Illustrated Stage, 595 Mission St., 4th Floor. 2 p.m. (interviews), 543-5755

**FEB. 9:** VALENTINE'S PARTY for older gay men and their friends of all ages. Square dancing, refreshments, and door prizes donated by Castro Street merchants. Francis of Assisi Community Center, 145 Guerrero St. 1-4 p.m. 626-7000

**FEB. 10:** READING of "Unconditional War" by local playwright Toni Press. Third new play reading in a five-part series. Eureka Theatre Company, 2730 16th St. 558-9898

**FEB. 11:** GERIATRIC HOME AIDE four-week training course on caring for elderly, homebound persons. S.F. Community College Skills Center, 1250 La Salle Ave. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 647-5557

**FEB. 11:** FILM PROGRAMS for ages 3-5 at 10 and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. ("Chicken Soup With Rice," "Fiddle De De," "Foolish Frog" and "One Was Johnny") Films for age 6 and older at 3:30 p.m. ("A Boy and a Boa," "Case of the Elevator Duck" and "Nunu and the Zebra." Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

**FEB. 14:** Jean Cocteau's FANTASY FILM "Beauty and the Beast," plus the short animation film "The Magic Flute," will be shown at Noe Valley Cinema. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 14:** Songwriter JESS GRANT takes a jaundiced look at Valentine's Day and asks, "Is romance the death of passion?" Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598

**FEB. 14:** The RHYTH-O-MATICS will crank up their world beat to benefit CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador) at the Farm, 1499 Potrero. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. 861-0425



This frightening vision is among those included in "The Earthquake in Mexico—Tragedy and Hope," a benefit exhibit opening Feb. 21 at Galeria de la Raza. Photo by Citali Rovirosa Madrazo

**FEB. 15:** The Plutonium Players/Ladies Against Women put on a show to benefit the SAN FRANCISCO GREY PANTHERS at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 8 p.m. 552-8800

**FEB. 15:** Country jazz and folk standards by MIKE AND MARGUERITE. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598

**FEB. 15:** GEOFF HOYLE premieres new material and presents some of his classic comedy/mime sketches in a one-man show. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 16:** National finger-picking champion CHRIS PROCTOR joins local guitarist JOHN McCORMICK for an evening of hot picking sponsored by Noe Valley Music (the store). Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 p.m. 821-6644

**FEB. 16:** VALENTINE'S DANCE featuring music by the Latin All Stars. Proceeds go to buy audio-visual equipment for Buena Vista Alternative School. Cesar's Palace, 3140 Mission St. 7 p.m. 821-1852

**FEB. 16-MARCH 28:** Gallery Sanchez will present its Lent show titled "ART AGAINST HUNGER." Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Reception Sun., Feb. 16, 2-4 p.m. Gallery hours Mon.-Fri. 2-5 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 17:** FIRST MEETING of an eight-week support group for survivors of sexual assault. Sponsored by San Francisco Women Against Rape, 3543 18th St. Call 647-RAPE for details

**FEB. 19:** Fran Peavey talks about her new book, *Heart Politics*, which claims there's more to politics than backroom deals and humorless protest demonstrations. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

**FEB. 20:** A kickoff meeting for volunteers for GIVE PEACE A DANCE to benefit CISPES and the San Francisco Freeze group. Refreshments, slides and music. New College Gallery, 762 Valencia St. 7 p.m. 861-0425

**FEB. 20-MARCH 1:** Dance in elaborate costume by SHA SHA HIGBY with music by MARC HATFIELD. The Next Stage, 3844 Mission St. 8:30 p.m. 239-7226

**FEB. 21:** NOE VALLEY CINEMA presents the jazz/rock film "Super-show" featuring Eric Clapton, Jack Bruce, Roland Kirk Quartet, Led Zeppelin, Modern Jazz Quartet and more. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 21:** SEARCH PARTY (John Logudic and Dave Parret) play guitar duos in the Windham Hill tradition. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598

**FEB. 21-MARCH 29:** Galeria de la Raza mounts an exhibition of photos and mixed media called "The Earthquake in Mexico—Tragedy and Hope," to benefit People to People's relief efforts in Mexico. Reception for the artists, Feb. 21, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Galeria de la Raza, 2851 24th St. Gallery hours Tues.-Sat. 1-6 p.m. 826-8009

**FEB. 22:** The Meat Market presents JAN LUBY, "strong original songs by a strong woman with a strong voice." Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598

**FEB. 22:** "Breaking Ground: Videos and Photographs of Tradeswomen," a look at today's PIONEERING WOMEN who work in construction and heavy industry. Video Free America, 442 Shotwell St. 7 and 9:30 p.m. 821-7334

**FEB. 22:** LOUIS JORDAN and MARK IZU, the sax and bass from United Front, present a new duo format. Noe Valley Music. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 24:** Group reading by WRITERS WITH DISABILITIES, members of the Independent Living Resource Center's workshop for creative writers. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

**FEB. 24:** AIDS HEALING SERVICE sponsored by the Metaphysical Alliance and the AIDS Interfaith Network. Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, 150 Eureka St. 6:30 p.m. 431-8708

**FEB. 27:** A discussion with Carolyn Clarke on WOMEN IN ZIMBABWE, accompanied by a slideshow from Clarke's year-long stay there. Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 821-4675

**FEB. 27:** PREMIERE of "Portrait of Anorexia," a film directed by Noe Valley's Wendy Zheutlin and produced by Fat Chance Films. Champagne reception including comedy by Paula Poundstone and music by Bonnie Hayes. Herbst Theatre, Civic Center. 8 p.m. 821-6217 or City Box Office (392-4400). The film will also be shown the following day, Feb. 28, at the York Theatre.

**FEB. 28:** Music is the medium for ANTI-CORPORATE HUMOR by Pat Wynne and her Topical Beat Band. Artemis Cafe, Valencia and 23rd. 8 p.m. 431-7076

**FEB. 28:** "Last Grave to Zimbaza," a film indictment of the apartheid system. Noe Valley Cinema. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 282-2317

**FEB. 28:** THE RODD BROTHERS demonstrate light, three-part, CSNY-style harmonies at the Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598



This and other images of women in the blue-collar trades will appear in the exhibit "Breaking Ground," opening Feb. 22 at Video Free America. Photo by Ann Meredith

**MARCH 1:** LEARNING DISABILITIES WORKSHOP for parents will cover a wide range of specific learning problems, including dyslexia. St. Paul's Primary School, 1209 Guerrero St. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 821-1082

**ONGOING:** RIKUDOM ISRAELI FOLK DANCERS meet Sundays at Bethany Church, Clipper and Sanchez. 7-9 p.m. 647-2483

### ZIPPY

ZIPPY AND SHELF-LIFE ARE DINING OUT AT THEIR FAVORITE PASTA OUTLET--

S.L., WHY DOES THAT MAN HAVE FOURTEEN HAIRS DANGLING FROM THE BACK OF HIS SHORT COIFFURE?

I DON'T KNOW, ZIP. BUT I'M BEGINNING TO LOSE MY APPETITE FOR CANNELONI!!



### "ANTHROPOLOGY A LA MARINARA"

I THINK MAYBE IT'S A TRANSITIONAL STAGE FROM THE OLD HIPPIE HAIRDO TO THE "PROFESSIONAL" LOOK. PERSONALLY, I'M SICKENED BY THE PHENOMENON.

WHAT'S A "HIPPIE" SHELF-LIFE??



A HIPPIE IS SOMEONE FROM AUSTRALIA OR BAKERSFIELD WHO TOOK TOO MUCH MEDICINE AND NOW HAS TO FOLLOW THE GRATEFUL DEAD FROM PHOENIX TO JERSEY CITY UNTIL 1999!!

..JUST LIKE NANCY SINATRA!!



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EXCUSE ME, SIR, WILL YOU BE HAVING THE ORANGE CREME BRULEE FOR DESSERT?

BRING ME THE GREATEST HITS OF THE STRAWBERRY ALARM CLOCK! I'M HAVING MY NINETEENTH NERVOUS COMEBACK!!



### The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send Calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding month of issue to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Please note: our next issue will appear March 4; the deadline for calendar items is Feb. 15.

